

**Connecticut Home Visiting Consortium Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, December 2, 2015**  
**10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Karen Foley Schain called the meeting to order at 10:05

The September home visiting consortium meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no revisions. (Judith Meyers, need name of second)

Presentations by:

Heidi Maderia, CT Association for Infant Mental Health (CT-AIMH)

Heidi shared the goal of CT-AIMH is to increase the competency and capacity of the workforce serving infants and young children and their families. CT-AIMH offers four levels of endorsements and uses a nationally recognized set of competencies that define best practice and guide professional growth. CT AIMH is looking to build this into home visiting to promote the social and emotional development. Currently there are 34 endorsed and an additional 40 in the endorsement process.

Core Competency Framework, Deb Adams, Office of Early Childhood

Deb Adams presented on the draft of a core competency framework that began in 2012 as a need identified by the Race To The Top (RTTT) grant application. Conceptually the core competencies will be a foundation for the early childhood workforce and will have influence on higher education and professional development. The core competencies build on adult learning theory. Currently a cross disciplinary team at the OEC is looking at the document to evaluate what fits and what doesn't for each of the divisions. By the end of January, a revised document will be provided to OEC leadership. Deb recognized that creating a set of core home visiting competencies is one of the charges of the home visiting consortium. She recommended that we hire an outside consultant to assist with the work.

Presentation of MIECHV benchmarks, Connie Heye, OEC

Connie presented an overview of the MIECHV benchmarks. There are 6 benchmark areas and 35 constructs (2 site level constructs and 33 family specific). Over the past 11 months OEC has looked at providing support around the benchmarks by identifying challenges with the benchmarks. These challenges can be categorized as; benchmarks that needed clarifying, benchmark database issues, benchmarks that would require additional training for staff and benchmarks that were faulty. Over the past several months, OEC provided intensive technical assistance around the benchmarks and follow-up training on Domestic Violence, Working with Child Protective Services, and Working with Families with Multiple Children.

New MIECHV funding opportunity

Karen Foley Schain provided background information on the MIECHV grant and the new direction of HRSA for MIECHV funding. CT Office of Early Childhood is eligible to apply for 9.1 million in formula funds. This is a reduction of 1.3 million.

Linda Goodman facilitated an open forum on the MIECHV funding announcement. A number of recommendations were made for cutting the grant. Feedback included reducing administrative costs, training and program evaluation, and making program reductions where there is underutilization. The discussion also included proposals to reassess need and the allocation of funds for various program components and models and feasibility of consolidation of programs using the same model in the same towns.